



June 29, 2012

Important Information about the 2012 Medi-Cal EHR Incentive Program

I. Basic Registration Information for the Medi-Cal EHR Incentive Program for 2012

- Deadlines to register and attest for 2012 Medi-Cal EHR incentive payments at the State Level Registry (<http://www.medi-cal.ehr.ca.gov/>) are:
 - Providers: March 31, 2013
 - Hospitals: December 31, 2012
- Providers and hospitals that did not participate in 2011 in the Medi-Cal or Medicare EHR Incentive Programs can begin registering at any time in the State Level Registry.
- Providers and hospitals that participated in 2011 in the Medi-Cal or Medicare EHR Incentive Programs can begin registering on September 27, 2012.

II. Information on Meaningful Use

- In the second and subsequent years of EHR Incentive Program participation providers and hospitals must demonstrate and attest to meaningful use of certified EHR technology in order to receive incentive payments.
- In the first year of meaningful use attestation the reporting period is any continuous 90-day period during the participation year. The participation year for 2012 is:
 - Providers: January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012
 - Hospitals: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
- The State Level Registry will not be able to receive meaningful use attestations from providers and hospitals until September 27, 2012. If hospitals have not already begun it is important that they begin the 90-day reporting period immediately so that it is



completed by September 30, 2012. Providers should also begin their reporting period soon since it must be concluded by December 31, 2012.

- Providers and hospitals that attested to meaningful use in 2011 through the Medicare EHR Incentive Program and desire to switch to the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program in 2012 must submit meaningful use data to the State Level Registry using the entire 2012 participation year as the reporting period.
- DHCS will not require hospitals and providers to report on additional meaningful use objectives and measures beyond those required by the federal Final Rule for the EHR Incentive programs. These are the same objectives and measures for which reporting is required by the Medicare EHR Incentive Program.

III. Provider Pre-qualification

- A list of the NPIs of providers that have been pre-qualified for 2012 is posted on the State Level Registry website at:
http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Documents/OHIT/2012_EP_Prequal_List.pdf
- Pre-qualified providers must attest in the State Level Registry that they **personally** delivered in 2011 at least 1,116 Medicaid encounters or treated at least 318 active panel patients. This is necessary because provider prequalification is based on Medi-Cal claims and encounter data held by DHCS and some providers bill for services delivered by affiliated providers.
- Pre-qualified providers who are members of a group or clinic are encouraged to register with their group or clinic rather than individually. In some circumstances, individual registration can prevent the group or clinic from being able to qualify for the program in the aggregate.



IV. Information for Groups and Clinics

- Groups and clinics that did not register with the Medi-Cal EHR Incentive Program in 2011 can begin registering with the State Level Registry at any time.
- Groups and clinics that registered with the Medi-Cal EHR Incentive Program in 2011 can begin registering for the 2012 participation year on July 31, 2012. Provider information entered for 2011 will be carried over and group/clinic representatives will be able to add or delete providers and other information as appropriate. Providers or their authorized representative must complete registration by submitting signed attestation forms by the deadline dates for the 2012 participation year specified above.
- The “express attestation” function is only available for providers receiving payment for adoption, implementation or upgrade (AIU) of certified EHR technology. The “express attestation” function will NOT be available for providers attesting to meaningful use since meaningful use data must be submitted uniquely for every provider.
- A list of pre-qualified clinics for 2012 is posted on the State Level Registry website at: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Documents/OHIT/2012_Clinic_Prequal_List.pdf.
- In order to be recognized by the State Level Registry as pre-qualified, clinics must complete a brief on-line questionnaire by July 25, 2012 at: <https://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22G4G3CRKHF>
- Clinics not on the pre-qualified list and clinics that fail to complete the questionnaire can still apply for the 2012 program by submitting their own data through the State Level Registry.